



City of Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation Recreation Programs and Services

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Manager, Community Recreation Branch

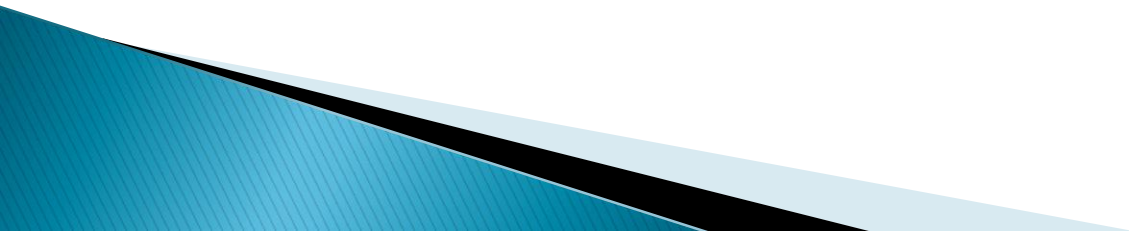
Mission and Vision

Mission Statement

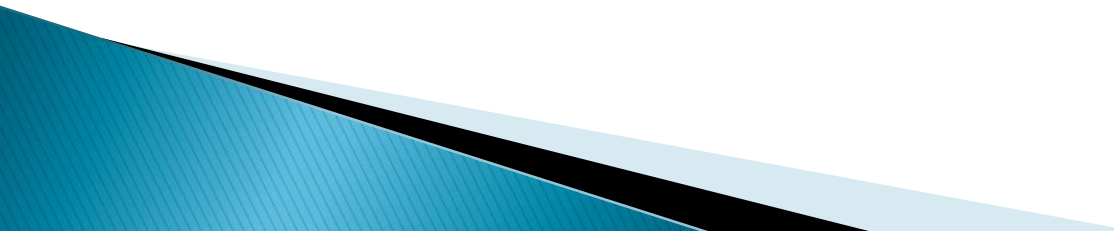
- ▶ Community Recreation improves the quality of life for all Torontonians, and strengthens communities by providing high quality and accessible services, programs and facilities.

Vision Statement

- ▶ In 2017, every Torontonian has better access to quality recreation programs in their community.



Community Recreation Branch

- ▶ Delivers registered and drop-in programs across the City
 - Summer Camps
 - Swimming Lessons
 - Skating Programs
 - Arts Programs
 - Fitness and Wellness Programs
 - Afterschool Programs
 - Youth drop-in Programs
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Community Recreation – Profile of Services

- ▶ 134 Community Centres
 - ▶ 63 Indoor Pool locations
 - ▶ 59 Outdoor Pool locations
 - ▶ 106 Wading Pool locations
 - ▶ 40 City–Operated Arenas with 48 Ice Surfaces
 - ▶ 51 Outdoor Artificial Ice Rinks
 - ▶ 2 Ski & Snowboard Centres
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Toronto Recreation Programs



The City of Toronto offers a variety of recreation programs that are fun, educational, affordable and promote health and fitness.

Programs include:


- Sports
- Camps
- Arts
- Fitness
- Dance
- Leadership
- Skiing
- Swimming
- Skating
- Cooking
- Cycling
- Music
- After school
- And more.


The City also offers a financial subsidy to low-income residents through our Welcome Policy program.


To learn more about our programs visit toronto.ca/torontofun.



How to Register

 Online is the quickest and easiest way to sign up for programs. Visit toronto.ca/torontofun and register using your family and client numbers.

 Register by phone using Touch Tone Registration (TTR), 416-338-0000 using your family and client numbers.

 Speak with staff at your local recreation centre or call 416-338-4386 for information about recreation programs, including how to register, where you can register in person, and for free and low-cost program options.

Recreation Service Plan

- ▶ Publicly funded recreation is an important aspect of what makes Toronto an attractive place to live and work.
- ▶ 5-year Recreation Service Plan, adopted by City Council in November 2012, based on the following principles:
 - Equitable Access
 - Quality
 - Inclusion
 - Capacity Building



Recreation Service Plan

The Recreation Service Plan aims to:

- ▶ Increase overall participation in recreation
- ▶ Decrease financial barriers, and
- ▶ Improve local and geographic access

Specific focus on:


- ▶ Children, youth, seniors, low income families, newcomers, and people with a disability.

“People who cannot find time for recreation are obliged sooner or later to find time for illness.”

John Wanamaker



Recreation – Access and Diversity Unit

- ▶ Outreach – partner with agencies/organizations to promote programs and services
 - ▶ Provide diverse and culturally sensitive non-traditional recreation programs – ie: skiing, cricket
 - ▶ Work with Community Groups – consultation and civic engagement, neighbourhood beautification
 - ▶ Support to Community Recreation Branch – training on human rights, designated months, Corporate reporting on progress
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Approaches to Affordable Recreation

▶ **Universal Free Programs**

- ▶ Child, youth and senior drop-in programs (almost 4,600 programs and 400,000 hours in 2011).
- ▶ Outdoor leisure swim and leisure skate.
- ▶ Indoor leisure skate.

▶ **Low Cost Programs**

- ▶ Low fees for introductory programs (intro swim/skate – \$37/9 weeks)

▶ **Program Discounts**

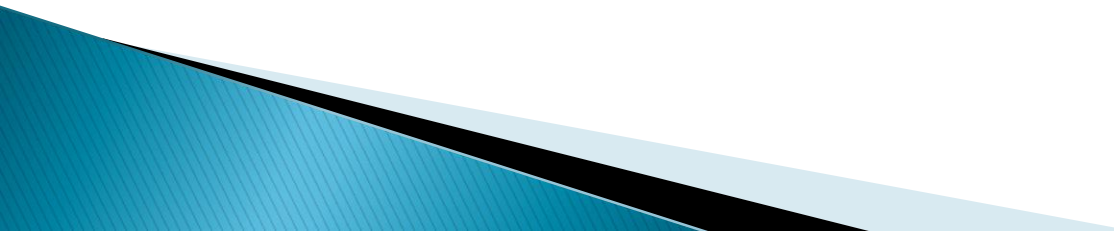
- ▶ Older Adults/Youth

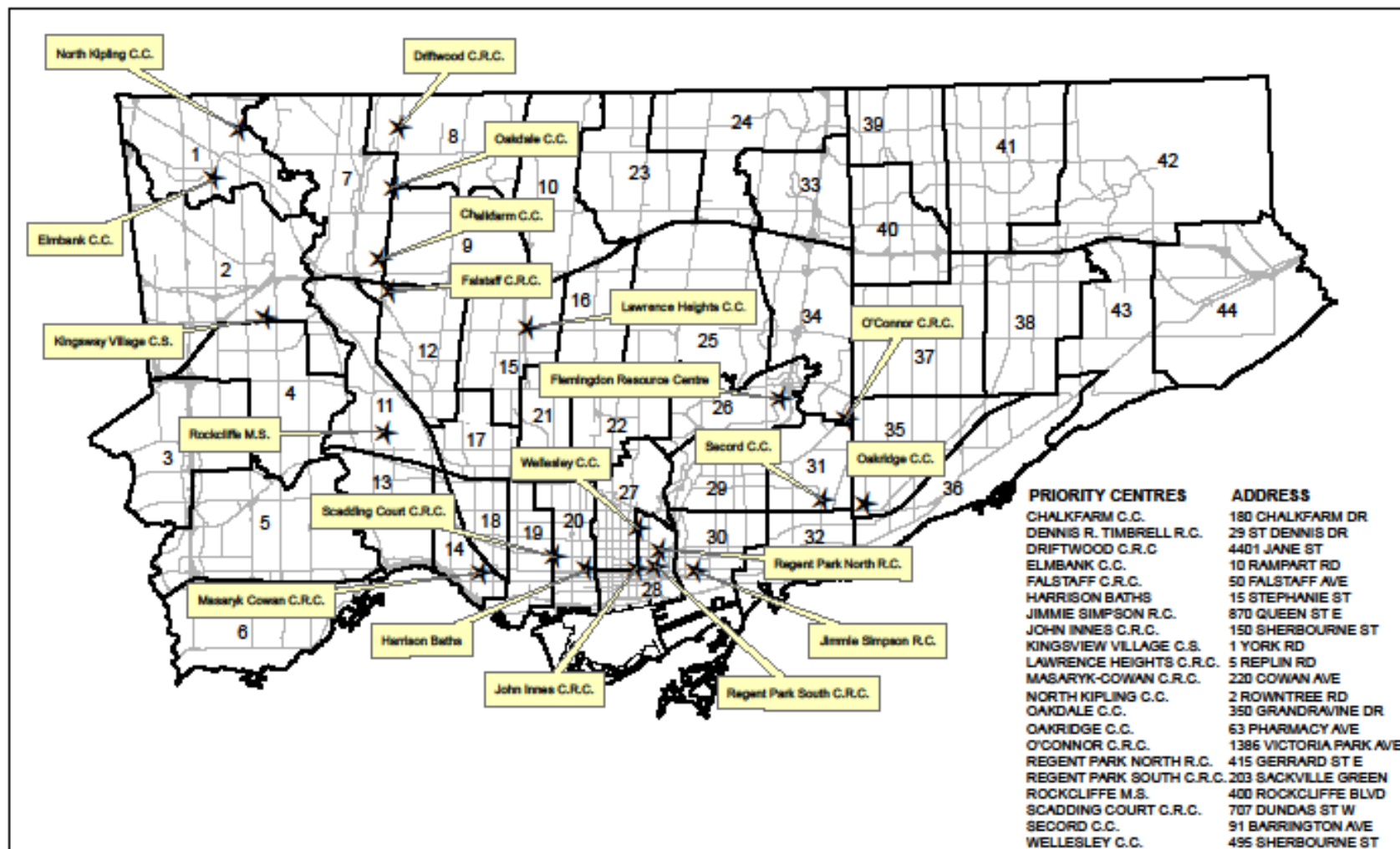
Welcome Policy

- ▶ A fee subsidy to help low income individuals and families who live in Toronto access City-operated recreational programs.
 - ✓ \$455/child: \$212/adult
- ▶ To be eligible for Welcome Policy, applicants must be:
 - ✓ 18 years of age or older
 - ✓ City of Toronto residents
 - ✓ Have a before tax family income of less than Statistics Canada's Low Income Cut-Off (LICO)

Visit toronto.ca/wp or call 416-338-2000 for more information about applying for Welcome Policy

Priority Centres

- ▶ Established in 1999 in select locations where 30% of the population in the census tract had income levels below the Low Income Cut-Off (LICO)
 - ▶ **Geographic approach** to increase access for people facing affordability barriers.
 - ▶ Currently 23 Priority Centres where all programming is free of charge for children, youth and seniors.
 - ▶ Recreation Service Plan recommended expansion (additional 17)
 - ▶ Adult fees will be waived at existing Priority Centres in July 2013, as approved by Council during the 2013 Operating Budget.
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★ Priority Centres in use (21)

Parks, Forestry and Recreation
Strategic Services
January 2008



Investing in Families

- ▶ Proactive case management collaborative between Parks, Forestry and Recreation, Public Health, and Employment and Social Services Divisions
- ▶ Supports single parent families in receipt of social assistance
- ▶ Educates families of the benefits of recreation
- ▶ Informs families about recreation in their community
- ▶ Identifies supports required (program fees, equipment, transportation of childcare).

Investing in Families

- ▶ IIF recreation staff conduct home visit and complete recreation assessments
- ▶ Provide up to \$500 annually per person for non-PFR recreation equipment and activities (average \$340)
- ▶ Childcare/transportation funded to support participation (average \$140)
- ▶ Encourage participation by building capacity in the family.
- ▶ Operates from all 15 TESS offices

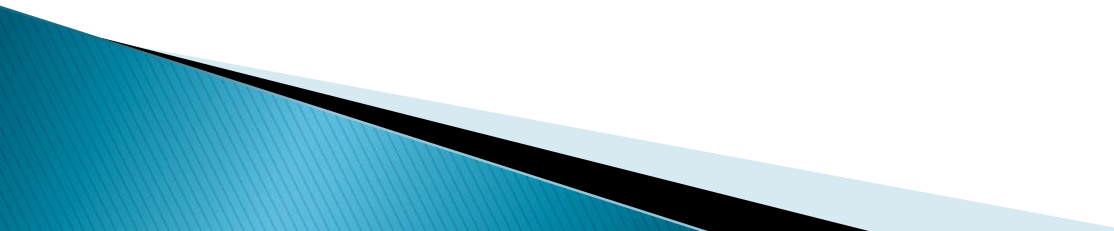
ARC Program

The After-School Recreation Care (ARC)

- ▶ Under the supervision of trained, caring recreation staff, ARC offers children ages 6 to 12 creative activities, outdoor play, health & wellness, sports & physical activities, social interaction & making friends, and homework help.



ARC Program


- ▶ Monday to Friday, full-time registration only
 - ▶ School Dismissal – 6pm
 - ▶ September 3, 2013 – June 20, 2014
 - ▶ Fee: \$2.34 per day – registration based on 5 days per week: can use Welcome Policy for ARC
 - ▶ For more information call 416-338-4386.
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Youth Programs

General

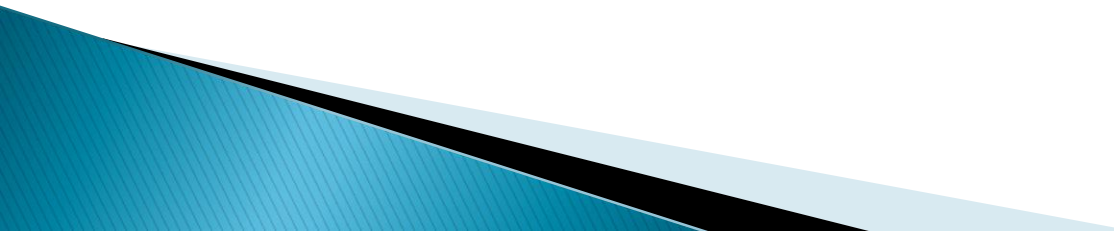
- ▶ Variety of drop-in sport programs
- ▶ Youth lounges
- ▶ Homework clubs

Leadership Programs

- ▶ Aquatic Leadership
 - ▶ Babysitting Training
 - ▶ Leader in Training (L.I.T)
 - ▶ Toronto Sport Leadership Program
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Youth Programs

Leadership & Civic Engagement

- ▶ Youth Advisory Councils – Give a voice to youth
 - ▶ Youth Outreach Workers – Advise on program needs of youth, provide information and referral
 - ▶ Youth Leadership Model – Recommended in Recreation Service Plan to be implemented in Fall 2015.
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Permits and Special Events

Seasonal

- ▶ Recreational Facilities (Rinks, pools, sports fields etc.)
- ▶ Parks (sport fields, allotment gardens)

One-time Bookings

- ▶ Permits for private events, photography, filming, picnics and bake ovens can be booked on a one-time basis.

For information call **416-392-8188.**



Permits and Special Events Booking...

Outdoor Special Events

- ▶ Can be booked by non-profit groups.
Call 416 392-8188 to apply.

Commercial Permits

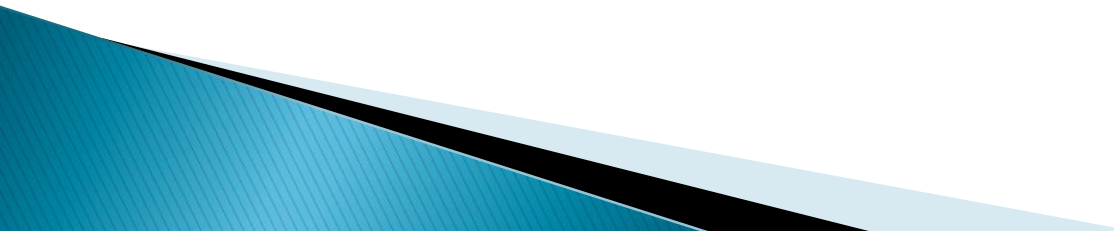
- ▶ Available for film production, tree maintenance, dog walking, and commercial recreation activities in parks.

To permit stadiums Toronto-wide please
call 416-338-3349.



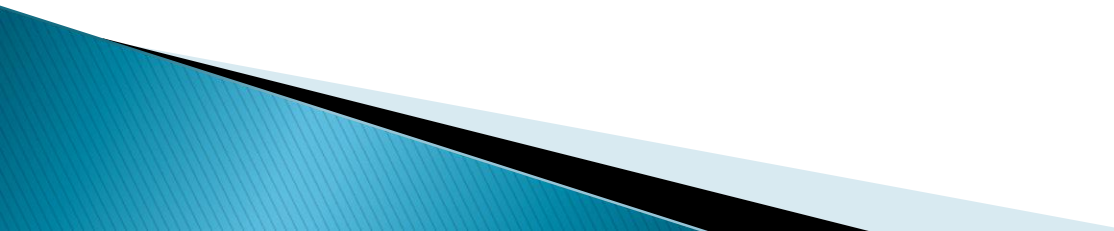
Toronto Newcomer Initiative

Toronto Newcomer Initiative (September 2010 to December 2011)

- ▶ Goal to increase newcomer participation in City recreational programs.
 - ▶ New and expanded free programs were provided in over 20 facilities
 - 172 new programs
 - 5000 participants enrolled
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Toronto Newcomer Initiative

PFR programs delivered during this project in partnership with community agencies and settlement staff

- ▶ Aquatic programs: youth leadership programs, women's-only swimming and drowning prevention programs
 - ▶ Sports programming including cricket, ball hockey, soccer, squash
 - ▶ Winter sports orientation including skating, skiing, hockey
 - ▶ Mural, gardening and neighbourhood beautification
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Recreation Contacts

- ▶ General Information – call 311
 - ▶ Recreation Program information – (416) 338-4386
 - ▶ Permit Information – (416) 392-8188
 - ▶ Outreach – Call Sandra McCallum – (416) 394-5494
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